

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00515 280856Z

20

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 030532

P R 280555Z APR 76  
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2068  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T MUSCAT 0515

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MU, UK, US  
SUBJECT: MASIRAH ISLAND

1. FOREIGN MINISTER ZAWAWI ON APRIL 27 ASKED IF I WOULD FIND OUT WHAT IS THE PRESENT USG POSITION ON USE OF MASIRAH ISLAND, WHICH SECRETARY KISSINGER HAD BROUGHT UP WITH SULTAN QABOOS IN JANUARY 1975. ZAWAWI SAID HE IS ASKED NOW AND THEN BY NEWSMEN WHATEVER HAPPENDED TO THE U.S. REQUEST, AND IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO LEARN WASHINGTON'S POSITION ON IT NOW. I UNDERTOOK TO GET SOMETHING FOR HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND IN ANY CASE BEFORE MID-MAY WHEN I WOULD BE LEAVING FOR WASHINGTON CONSULTATION.

2. COMMENT: IS WORTH NOTING THAT THIS IS THENFIRST TIME I RECALL HAVING BEEN ASKED ABOUT MASIRAH BY ANY OMANI OFFICIAL SINCE MATTER SURFACED IN WASHINGTON OVER 15 MONTHS AGO. CAN ONLY GULSS AT WHAT REALLY PROMPTED ZAWAWI'S SUDDEN INTEREST IN QUESTION, AND MY GUESS WOULD BE THAT OMANIS HAVE SENSED THAT BRITISH SOON WILL BE GIVING THEM NOTICE OF THEIR DEPARTURE FROM MASIRAH AIRBASE AND THESE-FORE ARE STARTING TO THINK ABOUT WHERE THIS LEAVES THEM -- PARTICULARLY ON MAINTENANCE OF BASE FACILITIE' -,\$ )8;3)8#99\$ 9\* 9.-,8 8 )-,\$334 \$303,\$3,5 9, '9? 285# 4-.\*.

3. LAST "IF ASKED" GUIDANCE I HAVE ON MASIRAH QUESTION WAS IN 75 STATE 247257 AND OBVIOUSLY IS PARTLY DATED IN VIEW OF VARIOUS  
SECRET

SECRET

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US-UK EXCHANGES IN PAST SIX WEEKS OF WHICH DEPARTMENT HAS KEPT

ME INFO MED. WOULD WELCOME DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE FOR REPLY TO  
ZAWAWI'S INQUIRY. (I WOULD PLAN TO RESPOND DIRECTHBO HIM, BUT  
IN EVENT MY LONG-STANDING REQUEST FOR AUDIENCE WITH SULTAN QABOOS  
COMES THROUGH SOON, AS I NOW HAVE REASON TO EXPECT, THERE MAY  
BE SOME MERIT IN TALKING ABOUT THIS WITH THE SULTAN.)  
WOLLE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PFOR, MASIRAH, MILITARY BASE CLOSINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976MUSCAT00515  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D760162-0235  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MASIRAH ISLAND  
**TAGS:** MARR, PFOR, MU, UK, US  
**To:** SECSTATE WASHDC JIDDA LONDON TEHRAN  
**Type:** TE  
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